

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.(currently amended) A joining structure in a laminate  
[[ (1) ]] comprising:

a plurality of metal layers; ~~(3-6) as well as and~~  
at least one adhesive layer ~~(12)~~ which is enclosed by the  
plurality of metal layers ~~(3-6)~~, ~~which~~ said plurality of metal  
layers ~~(3-6)~~ each comprise separate metal-layer parts ~~(7,8)~~  
having a first pair of overlapping edges ~~(9,10)~~, ~~which~~ said first  
pairs of edges ~~(9,10)~~ are offset with respect to each other and  
together define a continuous joining region [[ (2) ]],  
~~characterized in that the laminate (1) comprises~~

a first section ~~(14) which~~ of said laminate is of standard  
construction and a second section ~~(15) which~~ of said laminate  
contains an additional, internal reinforcing metal layer ~~(16)~~,  
said reinforcing metal layer ~~(16)~~ comprising two reinforcing  
metal-layer parts ~~(17,18)~~ with a second pair of overlapping edges  
~~(19,20)~~, said second pair of edges ~~(19,20)~~ being located outside  
the joining region.

2.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in  
claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein each of the plurality of metal layers

~~{3-6}~~ has a metal-layer part ~~[[{7}]]~~ with a jogged edge ~~[[{9}]]~~ in such a manner that the metal- layer parts ~~{7,8}~~ are substantially in line with one another.

3.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 2, ~~in which~~ wherein one of said reinforcing metal-layer ~~part {17,18}~~ parts is jogged ~~{23}~~ over the jogged edge ~~[[{9}]]~~ of the jogged metal layer part ~~[[{7}]]~~ to form a jogged portion~~{26}~~.

4.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 3, ~~in which~~ wherein the jogged portion ~~{26}~~ of said one of the reinforcing metal-layer ~~part parts {17,18}~~ is then jogged ~~{24}~~ in the opposite direction towards the other, associated metal-layer part ~~[[{8}]]~~ to form a second jogged portion ~~{27}~~.

5.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 4, ~~in which~~ wherein said one of the reinforcing metal-layer ~~part {17}~~ parts is subsequently jogged ~~{25}~~ in the same direction as said jogged edge ~~[[{9}]]~~ of the jogged metal-layer part ~~[[{7}]]~~ over ~~the other~~ another one of said reinforcing metal-layer ~~part {18}~~ parts to form a third jogged portion or jogged edge ~~{19}~~.

6.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 5, ~~in which~~ wherein a metal-layer part ~~[(7)]~~ of a further metal layer ~~[(6)]~~ extends over the portion ~~(27)~~, joggled ~~(24)~~ in the opposite direction, of the first one of reinforcing metal-layer ~~part (17)~~ parts to form a spacing between the edge ~~[(9)]~~ of the metal-layer part of the further metal layer ~~[(7)]~~ and the portion ~~(27)~~, joggled ~~(24)~~ in the opposite direction, of the first one of reinforcing metal-layer ~~part (17)~~ parts, in such a manner that the edge ~~(10)~~ of ~~the other~~ another metal-layer part ~~[(8)]~~ of the further metal layer ~~[(6)]~~ extends as far as the region where ~~this said~~ spacing occurs.

7.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 6, ~~in which~~ wherein the other metal-layer part ~~[(8)]~~ is joggled, from the region where ~~this said~~ spacing occurs, over the edge ~~(19)~~ of the reinforcing metal-layer part ~~(17)~~ joggled in the same direction, and is then joggled in the opposite direction.

8.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the first and second pairs of edges ~~(9,10,19,20)~~ of the reinforcing metal-layer parts, in the direction transverse to the direction in which the first and second pairs of edges ~~(9,10,19,20)~~ overlap, are of different sizes in order to provide a stepped joggle arrangement ~~(28,29)~~

of the metal layer ~~[[6]]~~ covering the reinforcing metal-layer parts ~~(17,18)~~.

9. (currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein each adhesive layer ~~(12)~~ runs on continuously over the first and second parts of overlapping edges ~~(9,10, 19,20)~~.

10. (new) A joining structure in a laminate comprising:

a plurality of metal layers; and

at least one adhesive layer which is enclosed by the plurality of metal layers, said plurality of metal layers each comprise separate metal-layer parts having a first pair of overlapping edges, said first pairs of edges are offset from each other and immediately adjacent to each other and together define a joining region,

a first section of said laminate is of standard construction and a second section of said laminate contains an additional, internal reinforcing metal layer, said reinforcing metal layer comprising two reinforcing metal-layer parts with a second pair of overlapping edges, said second pair of edges being located outside the joining region.

11. (new) A joining structure and a laminate comprising:

a plurality of metal layers; and

at least one adhesive layer which is enclosed by the plurality of metal layers, said plurality of metal layers each comprise separate metal-layer parts having a first pair of overlapping edges, said first pairs of edges are offset with respect to each other and together define a joining region,

a first section of said laminate is of standard construction and includes said plurality of metal layers, and

a second section of said laminate includes said plurality of metal layers and contains an additional, internal reinforcing metal layer, said reinforcing metal layer comprising two reinforcing metal-layer parts with a second pair of overlapping edges, said second pair of edges being located outside the joining region, said reinforcing metal layer only being within said second section.